GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4051
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
WATER INGRESS INTO COASTAL AREAS
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that water ingress into the Coastal villages of the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands is taking place very frequently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Cyclone risk Management Project is being implemented in the coastal areas of the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The water ingress is noticed in places of Tamilnadu namely Chennai, Cuddalore and Tiruchendur in August 2005 during spring tide (full/new moon day) which is believed to be largely due to near shore changes associated with the removal of sand after the 2004 Tsunami. The recovery process subsequently took about a year or so and as such no reports of water ingress are received after 2006. However, Kerala reported frequent occurrence of water ingress during the pre-monsoon period (March) associated with swell waves coming from the South Indian Ocean.

Seasonal ingress of sea water into fresh water aquifers adjoining the banks of rivers/ tidal estuaries/lagoons is also observed in coastal areas during the summer when the fresh water flow into these coastal eco-systems is diminished. Such a phenomenon has been observed from low lying areas of Corbyn's Cove, Saitankhari and Govindnager in Andaman & Nicobar, and along creeks along the coastline of India.

(c&d) The National Cyclone Risk Management Project (NCRMP) has been drawn up with a view to address cyclone hazard risks in 13 coastal prone coastal states/UTs, including Andaman & Nicobar Islands, with World Bank assistance. The project is coordinated by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and yet to be posed to the World Bank for appraisal.